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# INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

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**SUBJECT** Recruiting for the Volkspolizei

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. As a result of a recruiting campaign for the Volkspolizei in Kreis Halberstadt during the period from 4 to 16 April 1952, 65 men enlisted.
2. On 16 April, a large-scale recruiting campaign for the Volkspolizei was conducted in Miesterhorst. Three men enlisted and, on 17 April, were sent to Quedlinburg. Similar campaigns were conducted in all towns of the area.
3. In late April 1952, [ ] a recruiting detail of the Volkspolizei had been touring enterprises in the area of Cottbus for some time. One detail started recruiting in the railroad repair shops of the state railroad in Cottbus on 20 April. The detail, which included two VP officers, contacted individual young men daily in the repair shop and told them that the reunification of all Germany was only a matter of a very short time and that the Soviet Zone government would then have to send police to Eastern Germany and therefore had to recruit new personnel. Although the detail implied that in the event the young men did not enlist, they could expect to be either discharged or compulsorily drafted for Ave, the result of the campaign has proved insignificant to date.
4. On 6 May, [ ] the large-scale recruiting campaign for the Volkspolizei army produced only unsatisfactory results. [ ] in early May 1952, in the Sachsenverlag (publishing house) on Salomonstrasse, Leipzig, four propagandists had conducted a 120-hour recruiting campaign for the Volkspolizei army and that, of the 7,500 labor force, only one young woman had volunteered.
5. Four members of the Volkspolizei and a VP woman conducted a propaganda campaign for the Volkspolizei in factories, nationalized enterprises, administrative offices and the postal service and railroad in Cardelegen during the period from 1 to 3 May. Five persons signed up for the Volkspolizei.

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6. A recruiting campaign for the Volkspolizei was conducted in Alsenzabor during the period from 4 to 8 May 1952. [redacted] if they failed to volunteer, the young men would soon be drafted into Volkspolizei. 25X1

7. All young men of from 18 to 24 years of age who were unmarried were registered and reported to the Volkspolizei in the steel plant and rolling mill in Hennigsdorf during the early part of May. No recruiting commission has so far been to the plant.

8. Three registration campaigns for the Volkspolizei were conducted in Bezirk Lauchhammer during the period from 5 to 11 May 1952.

9. [redacted] beginning at once, suitable persons conduct recruiting campaigns for the Volkspolizei in all enterprises and [redacted] that those appointed in the enterprises would be assisted by VP officers who, however, should only be consulted if necessary. The new recruiting campaign, which allegedly was conducted throughout the entire Soviet Zone, was to cover the 1928 through 1934 classes. 25X1

10. On 14 May, employees of the 1910 class and younger classes of the Berlin regional railroad headquarters were invited to sign up for police service under threat of reprisals in the event of noncompliance. They were told that the younger classes would have to serve for three years, while older classes would have to serve with the factory police. The latter would continue to receive their previous salaries and to wear uniforms but would be unarmed and together with armed women of the transportation police would be assigned to escorting and checking trains. Only a few persons volunteered in the area of the regional railroad headquarters. Most employees asked for two days to consider.

11. On 15 May 1952, the 1927 through 1934 classes were registered in all enterprises in Cottbus.

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\* [redacted] Comment. The recruiting campaigns apparently are a temporary expedient to fill up the small cadres of the Volkspolizei Dienststellen (VPDs) as far as possible, while complete divisional strength can only be attained after introduction of ULT.

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